

Vietnam Policy Clumsy, Ill-Timed, Romney Says

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP)—Gov. George Romney of Michigan struck out yesterday at President Johnson's policy in Vietnam. "It has been clumsy, ill-timed and poorly coordinated," he told a news conference.

Romney, who started a presidential exploratory trip through five Western states here yesterday, said the administration has become locked in the Vietnam conflict.

"Many of their options are gone," Romney said. "The Republican party has a chance for a fresh look at this. I don't intend to fritter away this opportunity with half-cocked observations."

It's for this reason, Romney said, that he plans to visit Vietnam and other nations later in the year.

Raps CIA Student Subsidy

Romney was also critical of the role of the Central Intelligence Agency in subsidizing the National Student Association. Asked what he thought about the disclosure, Romney said, "I was shocked as I think most Americans were shocked."

But, Romney said, this is what one must expect "when you have leadership that is increasingly interested in using government funds instead of getting private support."

Romney landed in this Alaska city in the middle of a heavy snow storm. Gov. Walter Hickel of Alaska met him in Seattle and accompanied him on the flight north.

Viewed by many as a supporter of Richard M. Nixon, said Hickel, "The image of a person like Romney is one that can win in 1968. He comes across as a person who is knowledgeable but not political. I think he'd make a great president."

Describes GOP Youth

In a speech prepared for a GOP fund-raising banquet, Romney said Republicans have become the party of imagination and youth while Democrats have grown stale and tired.

"We have young ideas—and young office-holders to carry them out. And we are going to have more of both if I have anything to say about it."

of imagination—the party of daring and reform—the party of the future—the party of hope for America."

Before Romney returns home Thursday he will also visit Arizona, Idaho, New Mexico and Utah.